

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME

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PASS ROBERT HAMPTON, INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UN

SUBJECT: N ADMINISTRATION: G-LEVEL SALARIES IN GENEVA

REF: A) GENEVA 5506; B) GENEVA 5540

1. WE AGREE WITH U.S. MISSION GENEVA (REF A) THAT IT COULD BE USEFUL FOR ICSC TO RECOMMEND TEMPORARY FREEZE ON FURTHER UPWARD G-LEVEL SALARY ADJUSTMENTS IN GENEVA. HOWEVER, UNTIL ICSC HAS ASSUMED AND DISCHARGED RESPONSIBILITIES VESTED IN IT BY ARTICLE 12 OF ITS STATUTE ITS BASIS FOR SUCH RECOMMENDATION WOULD SEEM HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO CHALLENGE.

2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT FURTHER INCREASE IN G-LEVEL RATES EXPECTED AUGUST 1 IS COST OF LIVING EXTENSION OF STRIKE SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATED BY DEBATIN WITH STAFF REPRESENTATIVES AND AGREED TO BY AGENCIES IN GENEVA. INFORMATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AVAILABLE THUS FAR INDICATES GENEVA G-LEVEL RATES ARE UNJUST-

IFIABLY HIGH. NEVERTHELESS, FOR ICSC TO RECOMMEND
ABROGATION OF SETTLEMENT BEFORE IT HAS MADE PRE-REQUISITE
STUDY AND REACHED AUTHORITATIVE FINDINGS THAT G-LEVEL
SALARIES ARE TOO HIGH WOULD SEEM TO US TO PLACE ICSC IN
POSITION OF ACTING WITH INSUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE AND HIGHLY
UNPROFESSIONALLY, AND THIS WOULD UNDERMINE CONFIDENCE IN IT

AND ITS EFFECTIVENESS.

3. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE ICSC SHOULD MAKE EARLY DECISION TO
ASSUME FUNCTIONS UNDER ARTICLE 12 OF STATUTE AND DIRECT
ITS STAFF TO MAKE STUDIES NECESSARY TO ENABLE COMMISSION
TO ESTABLISH THE RELEVANT FACTS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS
TO SALARY SCALES FOR G-LEVEL STAFF IN GENEVA. IT WOULD
BE USEFUL ALSO FOR ICSC TO REVIEW AT ITS CURRENT SESSION THE
GENERAL GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE UNGA FOR ESTABLISHING
G-LEVEL RATES AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANY NECESSARY
REVISIONS BY UNGA OF THOSE GUIDELINES AT 1976 UNGA SESSION.

4. WE WONDER WHETHER CONTEMPLATED GENEVA GROUP MEETING AND
POSSIBLE FOLLOW-ON DEMARCHE TIMELY UNLESS U.S. MISSION OR
OTHER GENEVA MISSIONS HAVE HARD FACTS (SEE DEPT 96833
AND GENEVA 3323 AND 4110 NOTAL) TO SUBSTANTIATE SUCH
AN APPROACH AND WILL APPRECIATE FURTHER DETAILS ON WHAT
MISSION HAS IN MIND. KISSINGER

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